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(c) He went on deputation on 17th July 1924. He retired from service with effect from 2nd January 1931.

(d) No. The Government did not consider the question.

(e) The Rangers were deputed to the Phillippines on 5th September 1928. The cost of the deputation of the officers was Rs. 3,536-5-10 each.

(f) Yes. It was considered desirable that Indians should be given opportunities for training in these subjects so that in course of time they might be able to assume charge of works which were entrusted to officers on special contracts. The training which could be had under the Logging Engineer in Madras who had then only a restricted programme of work was considered insufficient and these officers were deputed so that they might gain broad experience in all methods of extraction and conversion of timber which could be had only in the Phillippines which had successfully adopted the largest hardwood lumbering industry in the world under conditions similar to Madras.

(g) One of the Rangers is in charge of Valparai sleeper project in the South Coimbatore division and the other is under the Forest Engineer in charge of the Nilambur bridge and road works.

(h) The Government sanctioned the deputation on the recommendation of the Chief Conservator of Forests.

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" May I know the sort of work which this Logging Engineer who has been paid Rs. 1,500 per month has been doing all these years? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" He was engaged in collecting data for mapping and cruising."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" Have the Government any report of his work? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" Yes."

Mr. Adbul Hameed Khan :—" Will they be pleased to place it on the table of the House? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" I shall consider the suggestion."

Proposed abolition of the Utilization Branch of the Forest Department.

* 246 *Q.*—Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the Government have considered the question of abolishing the Utilization Branch of the Forest Department and with what result and for what reasons?

A.—The question has not been considered.